

Appl. No. 09/880,734
Amdt. dated August 4, 2004
Reply to Office Action of July 13, 2004

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

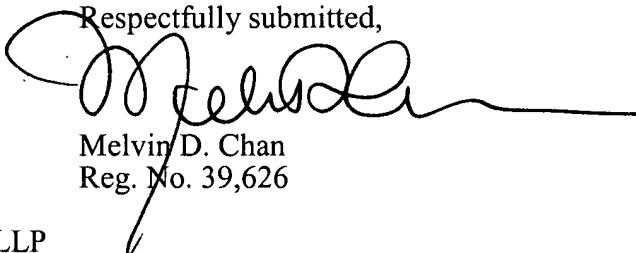
Claims 1-15 and 44-54 are pending in this application. Claims 16-43 have been canceled without prejudice to their patentability. In response to the restriction, applicants elect to prosecute the claimS in group I, with traverse. No new matter has been added.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



Melvin D. Chan
Reg. No. 39,626

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 650-326-2422
MDC:km
60277244 v1